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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/520,167 | 02/14/2005 | Rene Govaerts | 66722-067-7 | 5618 |

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| EXAMINER |
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LU, ZHIYU

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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2618

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/520,167 | Applicant(s) GOVAERTS, RENE | |
| | Examiner Zhiyu Lu | Art Unit 2618 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 2-5 and 7-10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 2-5 and 7-10, replace "A" or "An" with [The] to correct antecedent basis errors.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The wording of claims 1 and 8 are really confusing such as "...for communicating wireless a communication line signal..." It is unclear whether the communication is wireless or lined.

3. Claim 6 recites the limitation "the input/output unit" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

4. Claim 7 recites the limitation "these" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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5. Claims 7 and 10 recite the limitation "the receiver/transmitter status". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Uchiyama (US Patent#6766175).

Regarding claim 1, Uchiyama anticipates a communication system (Figs. 1 and 7) for use in connection with a stationary communication line (column 6 lines 8-10), the communication system comprising two input/output units, each input/output unit comprising connector for connection of a communication line, a second connector for connection of an input/output device (column 7 lines 23-48), a rechargeable battery and a third a first connector for connection of a charging voltage to the rechargeable battery (column 6 lines 17-19), whereby the units comprise transmitters and receivers for communicating wireless a communication line signal in one direction from a first input/output unit to a second input/output unit and in another direction from the second input/output unit a communication signal to the first input/output unit for input to the communication line (column 6 lines 5-8).

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Regarding claim 6, Uchiyama anticipates a communication system according to wherein a combined connector (Fig. 6C) is provided in the input/output unit (4 of Fig. 7, where power, audio, and data are combined connected through 102 of Fig. 7).

Regarding claims 2-3, Uchiyama anticipates the limitation of claim 1.

Uchiyama also anticipates the system comprises a base station adapted for receiving at least two units (Fig. 1).

Regarding claims 4-5, Uchiyama anticipates the limitation of claim 3 and 2.

Uchiyama also anticipates the base station comprises circuitry (128 of Fig. 7) for controlling charging of a rechargeable battery in one or both input/output units (column 6 lines 13-39).

Regarding claim 8, Uchiyama anticipates the limitation of claim 1.

Uchiyama also anticipates the input/output unit comprising a first connector for connection of a communication line, a second connector for connection of an input/output device (column 7 lines 23-48), a rechargeable battery and a third connector for connection of a charging voltage to the rechargeable battery (column 6 lines 17-19), wherein the unit comprises transmitter and receiver for communicating wireless a communication line signal in one direction to a second input/output unit and receiving from the second input/output unit a communication signal for input to the communication line (column 6 lines 5-8).

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Regarding claim 9, Uchiyama anticipates the limitation of claim 8.

Uchiyama also anticipates including a combined connector (Fig. 6C) in the input/output unit (4 of Fig. 7, where power, audio, and data are combined connected through 102 of Fig. 7).

Regarding claims 7 and 10, Uchiyama anticipates the limitations of claims 1 and 8.

Uchiyama also anticipates the input/output unit comprises a communication protocol allowing change of the receiver/transmitter status of two units during operation (inherent).

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zhiyu Lu whose telephone number is (571) 272-2837. The examiner can normally be reached on Weekdays: 9AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on (571) 272-7882. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Zhiyu Lu
June 28, 2006




NAY MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER